

Seaway Drive: South Bridge Light Sculpture

Budget:

\$70,000 artwork and installation
\$10,000 maintenance
\$10,000 program support
\$90,000 Program total



We now solicit a work of art with a specific medium in mind rather than a theme or concept.

The South Bridge on Seaway Drive is the link between the historic Ft. Pierce waterfront and the beaches of South Hutchinson Island. Adjacent amenities include the St. Lucie Historical Museum and the Smithsonian Marine Station. The light sculpture will be visible from the island, the Indian River and the Ft. Pierce downtown waterfront. A work of art in a non-traditional medium will be an impressive compliment to our growing collection of public art.

The commission is open to artists who work in light and lit elements as sculptural medium. The selection panel will solicit proposals from artists experienced in light sculpture in order to select three finalists to submit detailed proposals, including maquettes. The program will pay each finalist an honorarium of \$630. A selection panel of arts professionals and Ft. Pierce residents will recommend an artist to execute the project.

Light is the most basic element of art. Light brings us color and defines contours and volumes. Without light, there would be no art.

Light as an artistic medium is not new. Stage and cinematic lighting are examples of controlled light as a medium that augments other mediums of art. A century ago, the Russian composer and pianist Alexander Scriabin invented an electric "light organ" consisting of an array of colored light bulbs that could be played as an instrument to make instant colors integrated into the aural compositions of classical music. Light shows associated with musical performances became popular during the 'Sixties and evolved into the extravagant laser light shows of the 'Eighties.

However, light, itself, can be a medium of art without subordination or reference to other mediums instead of merely being an element of color, definition of volume or an augmentation of a musical event.

Application Information for All Commissioned Projects

Artist Eligibility

The request for qualifications for the listed projects is open to all artists or artist-teams that can demonstrate a level of experience and professionalism that is commensurate with each project's scope and budget.

Art Budgets

The art budgets listed with all projects must cover all costs associated with each project including: design, production, transport, installation, site preparation, travel expenses, permits, taxes and insurance as required.

Submission Requirements

Artists are required to submit separate applications (including slides) for each project.

To be considered, the following items must be received or postmarked by the deadline date associated with each of the projects.

Note: Staple or paper clip 8 sets of items 1, 2 and 3 (in this order) as described below:

- 1.) **Artist's Statement of Interest (one page maximum)-8 copies.** A brief statement that outlines the direction of the artist's work might take in response to this project as well as any background information that highlights the artist's qualifications and ability to complete the project.
- 2.) **Resume-8 copies.** A current artist's resume, with emphasis on public art experience (if any). Please include budget amount for all projects and indicate team member role if project is a design collaboration.
- 3.) **Annotated Slide List-8 copies.** A typewritten slide identification list that includes: title of the work, medium, dimensions, date completed, project budget and a brief description of the artwork (if necessary). Please use large fonts since these will be referenced while viewing slides. Include the artist's name, address and telephone number on this sheet.
- 4.) **Slides.** Six to Ten 35-mm slides, labeled with the following information: artist's name, title of work, number that corresponds to the annotated slide list and an indication of the top and correct side of the slide. These slides should be indicative of the type of work that would be appropriate for this project and presented in a clear plastic slide sheet.
- 5.) **Reference List.** 1 copy. Name, address, telephone number and email address of three references. (Do not ask anyone to send a letter of reference.)
- 6.) **Self addressed, stamped envelope** for the return of the artist's slides.

Please Note: Incomplete or late submissions will be eliminated from the review process. Do not send detailed proposals at this time-only preliminary ideas. Do not send materials other than those requested. No artist's reviews or catalogs. Only artist's slides will be returned-only if a self addressed, stamped envelope is included for that purpose.

The artist selection panel will select from three to five finalists for final review. Finalists will be invited to submit a final, site-specific design and project budget. Honorariums, varying from project to project, will be available to finalists that prepare proposals.

The Selection Panel's recommendations will be forwarded to the Cultural Affairs Council for affirmation and then to the Board of County Commissioners for final approval, prior to the award of a contract. Upon approval, a contract for this commission will be arranged between the artist and St. Lucie County.

All artists will be notified about the outcome of their submissions. Please do not call or email for an update on the status of the submission after the submission due date.

**Submit applications to:
Jon Ward, Director of Cultural Affairs
St. Lucie County Cultural Affairs Department
600 North Indian River Drive
Ft. Pierce, FL 34950**

For more information, contact Jon Ward at 772-462-2548 or wardj@co.st-lucie.fl.us.